



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,071	07/22/2003	Hamid Hojaji	50699/10	5934
1912 7590 06/21/2007 AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN LLP 90 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10016			EXAMINER CHAPMAN, JEANETTE E	
			ART UNIT 3635	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/21/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/625,071	Applicant(s) HOJAJI ET AL.	
	Examiner Chapman E. Jeanette	Art Unit 3635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2007 and 26 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-115 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-115 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/30/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3635

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-27, 31-59, 63-85, 90-112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pavlov et al (5588977) in view of Haines et al (5821184) and Fehlmann (5641815).

Haines et al discloses a foam glass blocks of various and numerous densities and pore sizes ranging from 7lb/ft^3 – 42.6 lb/ft^3 in density and from .01mm-5mm in pore size. See examples 1-18. These values meet the recited range values and measurements. Haines further discloses that a pore of adhesive compound, thus a closed pore skin, could be applied to one side of a 1-2 inch size block or disk. The measurements in width, surface area, weight and thickness and length vary greatly. See examples 1,3,5, 7, 9, 11, 15. One of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated the use and designed the properties/measurements most conducive to the use.

Pavlov et al discloses foam glass for tiles in roofs of buildings and for tiles in internal wall lining and external wall surfacing. The foam glass tile includes a density of 64.427 lb/ft^3 (converted from 1000 kg/mm^3) and a compression strength of 8700 lb/ft^2 (converted from 60Mpa). Pavlov et al states the pore size can vary depending on the method of making. One of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated that the measurement values change with the method of making and the method of use. One of

Art Unit: 3635

ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated arriving at measurement values commensurate with the use. From both references, one of ordinary skill in the art appreciates how these values or properties change with the different methods of making. It is clear that if the block or tile is subjected to major compressive forces, you would desire a tile with a maximum compression strength. So variations in the weight over 65 lbs, the width, the thickness, etc.... and the compressive strength over 10,000 lb/ft² are viewed as choices obvious to obtain thru option method of making subject to the discretion of use of the article.

Nevertheless, if strength is desired, Fehlman teaches a building material with increased strength; he discloses the use of cement with foam glass filler. The material includes the recited pore sizes and the compression strength over 10,000 per square foot . See column 1 lines 45-60, column 2, lines 1-10, lines 65 through column 6 lines 14.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated modifying Haines in view of Pavlov or Pavlov in view of Haines to arrive at the foam glass tile with the desired properties and characteristics while using the method to achieve the desired properties and characteristics. With the foam glass having the recited properties, the same is able to withstand /resistant earthquake damage.

Claims 29-30, 60-62, 86-89, 113-115 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the above references as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Fukumoto et al. The tile of Fukumoto et al comprises a closed cell structure and a decorative tile design including an interior portion 10 and the tile outer skin

comprises an additive 12 or a pigment to make its surface appear a different color that the interior portion of the tile. The tile may be used in a building or lightweight building façade (column 6, lines 1-12) and having the same recited values as the prior art the same is capable of withstanding earthquake damage.

Glass is known to be made with a textured or glazed surface for aesthetic appeal. The glaze layer is disclosed by Fukumoto et al as conventional. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have added these decorative effects for aesthetic appeal. The same has no bearing on the overall structure and function of the glass.

In view of the above it would have been obvious to decorate the tile using any means known today and appealing to the user or maker as shown by Fukumoto et al.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/26/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The arguments are moot given the new ground of rejection in response to the Macedo declaration. Applicant main argument centers around the compression strength over 10,000 lb/sq inch. The declaration argues that to obtain such a value would be out of the scope to the Pavlov reference. However, the examiner contends obtaining such a value would not be out of the scope to Pavlov and Haines in view of the prior art to Fehlmann. The Fehlmann teaching also overcomes the Macedo declaration. See rejection above.

Applicant's Macedo declaration necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See

MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chapman E. Jeanette whose telephone number is 571-272-6841. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-thursday, 8:30-6:00, every fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached at 571-272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3635

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JEANETTE CHAPMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3635

jec